LITTLE HULTON

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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

HEALTH
AND
SANITARY REPORTS
AND
STATISTICS
FOR

Year Ending December 31st, 1928

J. H. MARSH, Medical Officer
J. T. DAVIES, Surveyor and Inspector

ROBT. WHEWELL & SON, PRINTERS, FOLDS ROAD, BOLTON
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Medical Officer's Report.

"Moorside,"
Little Hulton,
July 5th, 1929.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Little Hulton Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Thirty-second Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Condition of the District for the year 1928.

Estimated population	7918
Area	1669 acres
Rateable Value	£32928
Sum represented by a Penny Rate ...	£125

BIRTHS.

Registered—totalled 113; 62 males, 51 females, giving a rate of 14·2 per 1000 of population as against 11·9 last year, and 14·9 the mean average for the last five years.

Annual rate for England and Wales, 16·7.

Notified—totalled 109; 61 males, 48 females, including 10 still-born, and 3 illegitimate.

DEATHS.

From all causes numbered 76; 41 males, 35 females, equal to a rate 9·5 per 1000 of population, as against 10·8 last year, and 10·9 the mean average for the last five years.

Annual rate for England and Wales, 11·7.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

	Males	Females
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	1	4
Other Tuberculous Diseases	3	1
Cancer	2	3
Cerebral Hemorrhage...	1	1
Heart Disease	8	4
Arterio Sclerosis	3	3
Bronchitis	1	1
Pneumonia (all forms)	3	3
Other Respiratory Diseases	2	—
Ulcer of Stomach	2	—
Appendicitis	1	1
Nephritis	2	1
Puerperal Sepsis	—	2
Congenital Debility and Premature Birth	1	1
Suicide	2	1
Other Deaths from Violence	1	1
Other Defined Diseases	8	8
	41	35

None of the deaths were due to any of the Notifiable Diseases other than Tuberculosis.

TUBERCULOSIS,

Accounted for nine deaths, five (1 male, 4 females) being due to Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System, and four (3 males, 1 female) to other Tuberculosis Disease, The death-rate of Pulmonary Tuberculosis was equal to a rate of 0·63 per 1000 population, as against 0·88 last year, and 0·49 for the last five years.

PEEL HALL TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITAL.

Fifty-one deaths, all non-residents were recorded.

CANCER.

Caused five deaths, 2 males, 3 females, a rate equal to 0·63 per 1000 of population, a decrease 0·37 as compared with last year, and a decrease of 0·39 on the mean average of the last five years.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The deaths of Infants under one year totalled five, the causes etc., being—

Tubercular Meningitis	1 aged 3 months
Congenital Asthma and Convulsions ...	1 aged 1 week
Prematurity, Convulsions	1 aged 1 day
Pemphigus, neonatorum...	1 aged 11 days
Premature birth	1 aged 1 hour

This represents a rate of 44 per 1000 births, a marked decrease compared with 115 last year being 71 per 1000 less, and 49 per 1000 than the mean of the last five years. As I informed you, it was difficult to assign a reason for the high-rate last year, but the low-rate of 44 per 1000 births for this year is not surprising after seeing the large number of exceptionally clean, healthy, well-developed babies at the recent Health Competition.

The rate for the total deaths of children under one year per 1000 births for England and Wales was 65.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

Forty-seven cases were notified as against thirty-one last year.

Scarlet Fever accounted for 22 cases and nine cases were removed to Hospital.

Diphtheria accounted for eight cases, and three were removed to Hospital.

Pneumonia accounted for two cases.

Puerperal Fever accounted for one case and was removed to Hospital.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum accounted for one.

Erysipelas accounted for two.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis accounted for six, and four cases had Sanatorium treatment.

Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis accounted for five, and four had Hospital treatment,

Details of the above, in age groups will be found in the Summary table.

HOUSING

During the year 82 new houses have been erected—75 by the Council and seven by private enterprise. Considering the population, the district is well supplied with houses, especially so if the successful applicants had been Little Hulton residents. I regret to say little has been done to the overcrowding in a certain number of houses in the district, or with the insanitary areas; a number of these residents have large families, others are far from desirable tenants, and one can hardly expect private landlords to accept such, if the Council themselves will not entertain them as tenants in their property. It is for the Council to deal with this difficulty and until suitable houses can be built at a rent these people can pay, and in the locality in which they have always lived, it does not seem to me right or advisable to condemn these houses and areas.

Both from a health and a moral point of view, the great requirement in the present cottages is additional bedroom accommodation.

Factories, Workshops, and Workplaces

There are in the district—

9 Factories
13 Workshops (including Laundries)
7 Workplaces

All have been kept under supervision and in one the sanitary accommodation was defective.

GENERAL SANITARY MATTERS.

It is pleasing to note, the great improvement in the Scavenging now the Council have taken the work under their own control.

The enclosed motor van has proved most serviceable in every way.

The Council are to be congratulated in securing a suitable tip for the dry ashes, and a central building for stabling, garage and store rooms.

Armitage Avenue, which was opened by Miss Armitage, is an excellent road, and an undertaking of which the Council can be proud.

The scheme for the Sewering of the whole District is awaiting the sanction of the Ministry of Health. Further details of Sanitary Improvements made during the year are fully dealt with in the summary.

HEALTH WEEK.

The Council are to be congratulated on the result of their first venture, Great interest was shown at the meetings, exhibits, demonstrations, etc., which were held in every part of the District, and I believe that it was acknowledged the week was a success from every point of view.

I am,

Yours obediently,

JNO. HOLT MARSH,

Medical Officer of Health.

SUMMARY.

1.—Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area in acres 1669.

Population—Census 1921—7911. Estimated 1928—7918.

Number of inhabited houses (Census 1921), 1779.

Number of families or separate occupiers (Census 1921), 1810.

Rateable Value £32,938. Sum represented by a penny rate £125.

Social conditions, including the chief occupations of the inhabitants: Mixed, mostly working class. Chief industries—Collieries, Iron Foundries, Cotton and Weaving Mills, Farms.

The influence of any particular occupation on public health: None particularly detrimental.

Vital Statistics.

	Total	Male	Female
Births in 1928	113	62	51
Deaths in 1928	76	41	35

	Per 1000 of Population				Per 1000 Births	
	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Death rate from Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	Death rate from Cancer	Maternal Mortality Rate	Rate of Deaths under 1 year
Mean of 5 years, 1923-1927	14·9	10·9	0·49	1·02	4·49	93
1927	11·9	10·8	0·88	1·00	Nil	115
1928	14·2	9·5	0·63	0·63	17·69	44
Increase or Decrease in 1928 on Five years' average	−0·7	—1·4	+0·14	—0·39	+13·20	—49
Previous year	+2·3	−1·3	−0·25	—0·37	+17·69	—71

Any causes of sickness or invalidity which have been specially noteworthy in the area during the year; and any conditions of occupation or environment which appear to have a prejudicial effect on health—A larger number of Scarlet Fever cases than is usual, not confined to any particular part of the district.

2—General Provision of Health Services for the Area

Hospital accommodation provided or available:

For Smallpox: Drinkwater Park Hospital, Kersal, Manchester.

For other Infectious Diseases: Leigh Joint Fever Hospital Astley, near Manchester; Bolton Borough Fever Hospital Deane, Bolton.

Joint or otherwise: Arrangement—payment per day.

No. of beds available for your District: For Smallpox, two For other Infectious Diseases, no limit.

Observations as to sufficiency or otherwise of the available accommodation. Satisfactory.

Is there any Hospital Accommodation for the following?:—

(*a*) Tuberculosis: Peel Hall County Tuberculosis Hospital.

(*b*) Maternity Cases: Townleys Hospital, Farnworth.

(*c*) Children: Pendlebury Children's Hospital.

Ambulance facilities:—

(*a*) For Infectious Cases: The Hospitals' Motor Ambulance.

(*b*) For Non-Infectious and Accident Cases: Farnworth Council and the Collieries Motor Ambulances.

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority

Medical Officer of Health: John Holt Marsh.

Remuneration (including bonus, if any) as M.O.H. at 31/12/1928, £80 per annum—never had a bonus.

Is he a whole or part-time Officer of the Local Authority? Part time. Any other public appointments held by him? Union Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator.

Is he in private practice? Yes.

Sanitary Inspector: James Thomas Davies.

Remuneration (including bonus, if any) as Sanitary Inspector at 31/12/1928, £203. 5s. 6d.

Is he a whole or part-time Officer? Part time. If not, what other appointments does he hold? Surveyor, Gas Manager, and Meat Inspector.

Professional Nursing in the home, Nature of arrangements made by the Local Authority in the district for—

(*a*) General Nursing: Undertaken by the District Nurse.

(*b*) For Infectious Diseases, e.g. Measles, etc. In the event of a severe outbreak nurses would be appointed.

State if nursing is provided by arrangement with the District Nursing Associations or directly by the Local Authority. With the District Nursing Associations.

Is there a District Nursing Association in the District? Yes.

How many District Nurses employed? One.

Specify the District Nursing Associations at work and what co-ordination (if any) exists with the Local Authority and what financial obligations fall upon the latter. Little Hulton Nursing Association. No co-ordination with the Local Authority. No financial obligations.

Has any local scheme been prepared in regard to the Supply of Food and Milk for expectant and nursing mothers, and of Milk for infants? In the hands of the County Council,

Midwives—Number of midwives on the County Council Register, 31/12/1928, 3. Number actually practising, 3.

Any comments as to the sufficiency or otherwise of the midwifery service? Sufficient.

3—Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

Water Supply—

Source and quality: Bolton Corporation. Good.

Constant or intermittent: Constant.

Approximate number of dwelling-houses supplied. Direct—All.

Any insufficiency? No.

Nature of extensions (if any) during the year. Extensions to the New Council Houses in Armitage Avenue and Worsley Road, also to the New Houses in Peelwood Avenue.

Rivers and Streams—

Action taken to check the pollution of streams. General Inspections.

Sources and nature of pollution. Ordinary sources common to open streams.

Drainage and Sewerage—

Sewage Disposal Works, method of treatment. Three Sewage Works. Tanks and filters.

What is the character of the Drainage System? Mostly separate.

Any extension or improvement in character and sufficiency during year. Improvements in Manchester Road West, Extension to the New Housing Scheme.

Areas, or Townships, without proper drainage system. As before stated, fairly large areas. A complete sewage scheme for the whole of the District is in preparation.

Action taken—Drain testing, flushing, etc. Drain testing as required. Regular and systematic flushing advocated.

Closet Accommodation at end of 1928—

Privy Middens:—Number of Middens, 341. Number of closets attached to these Middens, 682. Number of Pail Closets, 2. Number of Dry Ashpits (excluding Middens), 188. Number of Fresh Water Closets, 1,139. Number of Movable Ashbins for refuse, 971. Number of Waste Water Closets, 103.

Conversions during 1928—

Number of Privy Closets to Fresh Water Closets, 158.
During five years 1923—1927, 307.
Number of Waste Water Closets to Fresh Water Closets, 2.
During five years 1923—1927, 2.
Number of Houses at which Movable Ashbins have been substituted for fixed receptacles, 161.
During five years 1923—1927, 203.

Is there any definite policy at the present time for abolishing privy middens and pail closets? Yes.

Does Council contribute towards the cost of conversion? No. Have urged contribution as an inducement to quicken conversions.

What kind of closet accommodation is being provided for *new* property? Fresh W.C.'s.

Scavenging—

Character and efficiency of the arrangements for Scavenging and Removal and Disposal of House Refuse for whole of district. Since undertaken by the Sanitary Authority, the Scavenging is done more efficiently and regularly. Suitable tips have been leased and a covered motor vehicle provided.

How performed (state whether by Sanitary Authority, contract, or occupiers of houses)? Sanitary Authority.

Are motor vehicles used? Yes.

If privy middens exist, are they emptied by day or night? By day.

Has a destructor been provided? No.

If not, how is the refuse disposed of? In tips and on land.

Sanitary Inspections during 1928—

No. of premises visited. 605.

Defects or nuisances. No. Discovered, 222. No. abated, 218.

No. of Notices served. Informal 80. Statutory 50.

Legal proceedings. None.

Smoke Nuisance—

No. of Observations 12. No. of Legal Proceedings taken and result. None.

What is the time limit allowed for the emission of black smoke per hour? 3 minutes per half-hour.

Offensive Trades. Two. Character—1 Tripe Boiling and 1 Gut Scraping. Action taken or needed. None.

Common Lodging-houses. None.

Houses let in Lodgings. Action taken or needed. A number of Houses with one or two lodgers or boarders.

Schools—

Sanitary condition. Satisfactory with two exceptions. Water Supply, &c. Bolton Corporation.

Health Education:—

Any action taken during the year in regard to the publication of information or dissemination of knowledge relating to health or disease? (*e.g.*, Health Week, etc.) A successful Health Week, from October 28th to November 5th, including the following: Health Placards and Pamphlets, Lectures, Demonstrations, School and other Competitions, Shop Window Displays, Groomed Cattle, Farmers' and other Trade Conveyances, etc.

4.—Housing.

No. of new houses erected during the year 1928:—

(*a*) Total (including numbers given separately under (*b*)... 82

(*b*) With State assistance under the Housing Acts—

(i) By the Local Authority 75

(ii) By other bodies or persons 7

Financial assistance for purposes of increasing housing accommodation:—

Have any advances been made during 1928—

(*a*) By Loans? Yes. No.: 3. Amount of loans, £900.

(*b*) By subsidy? Yes. No.: 3. Amount of subsidies, £225.

Unfit Dwelling-houses—

Inspection—(1) Total No. of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 39

(2) No. of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ... ... Nil

(3) No. of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ... Nil

(4) No. of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under (3) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 14

Remedy of Defects without Service of formal Notices—

No. of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 220

Action under Statutory Powers :—

A.—Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925—

(1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs... 1

(2) No. of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—

By owners ... ... None

B.—Proceedings under the Public Health Acts—

(1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... 91

(2) No. of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—

(*a*) By owners 64

(*b*) By local authority in default of owners 9

General Housing Conditions in the Area :—

General Housing Conditions : With the exception of some small areas in the District, generally very fair.

Extent of shortage or excess of houses. Considering the population, well supplied with houses.

Measures taken or contemplated to meet any shortage: Further building schemes are contempleted by the Council, and several additional houses are likely to be built by private enterprise.

Overcrowding (if any) :—

Extent and causes: Limited to a number of houses, some due to married children still living in their parents homes, a few to exceptionally large families.

Measures taken or contemplated for dealing with overcrowding,

A difficult problem with the large families, to find other accommodation at a similar rent, as a rule these being of the poorer class, and in some cases undesirable tenants.

Unhealthy Areas :—

Action taken (if any) or contemplated *re* unhealthy areas: Contemplated and reconstruction, and in one or two areas demolishing when accomodation can be found for the residents.

Local Authority's Housing Scheme—

Give brief particulars of any scheme now in hand or contemplated: 8 houses in course of erection on the Worsley Road Site by the Council, 10 houses in course of erection by private owners.

Town Planning (applicable to Boroughs and Urban Districts with a population of more than 20,000 at the Census of 1921: Has a Town Planning Scheme (as required by the Town Planning Act, 1925, Sec. 3) been prepared by your Authority? Included in the Bolton Regional Scheme.

5.—Inspection and Supervision of Food.

(*a*) Milk Supply—Action taken with regard to—

The administration of the Milk and Dairies (Consolidation) Act, 1915, The Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922, and The Milk and Dairies Order, 1926: General routine work. Dairies, Cowsheds, etc. inspected, defects remedied.

Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops—

Are they periodically inspected? Yes. How often? Quarterly. What is their condition? Generally clean, with one or two exceptions. Some of the buildings not satisfactory.

Amount of air space in cubic feet required for each cow. (*a*) Where cows are habitually grazed, 600. (*b*) Where cows are *not* habitually grazed, 600.

Have any notices been served during the year requiring additional window area in farm buildings? If so, give the number: No.

Has any owner undertaken (voluntarily) further works on the ground that the required alterations afforded an opportunity for the re-modelling of cowsheds? (Give brief details) Yes. Improved ventilation and lighting, and concreted floors in cowsheds at one farm, at another farm concreted impervious floors.

Any information as to the cost of work, either actual or estimated: Cannot say.

Farms—

No. of Dairy Farms 13. Approximate number of cows in the district 278.

Cowkeepers—

No. of Cowkeepers, 13. No. on Register, 16. No. of Inspections during year, 26.

Dairymen or Purveyors of Milk (other than Cowkeepers)—

No. of Dairymen or Milk Purveyors, 4. No. on Register, 4 (other than cowkeepers).

Any arrangements for veterinary inspection of dairy cows? No.

(*b*) Meat, &c,—Observations on—

(1) Action taken with regard to meat and other food, including inspection of slaughterhouses, meat shops, stalls and vehicles, and places where food is prepared: Slaughterhouses, regular and strict inspection. Shops, etc. kept under visitation. There are still a number of small shops altogether unsuitable for business which ought to be cleared.

(2) Has a Public Slaughterhouse been provided? No.

Private Slaughterhouses:—No. registered, 3. No. licensed, 4.

Bakehouses:—Number 15. Condition: Generally satisfactory.

Amount of food condemned or surrendered during 1928 as unfit for human consumption—

Tuberculous carcases and parts: 121 lbs.

Diseased, unsound or unwholesome meat (*other than above*): 31 lbs.

(*c*) Adulteration, etc.—

If the Council is an Authority under the Food and Drugs Acts, give name of laboratory at which analyses are carried out :

The Authority or the County Council.

6—Prevalence Of and Control over Infectious Diseases.

Infectious Diseases Generally.

Note.—The Ministry of Health states the prevalence of notifiable infectious diseases during the year 1928 should be reviewed, and noteworthy facts as to the source or spread of infection should be recorded :—

Compared with former years, an unusual large number of Scarlet Fever cases, many of the cases traceable to infection from outside districts.

Diphtheria antitoxin.—Notes on the supply and prompt use : Might be more fully utilized before cases are sent to Hospital.

Is a supply kept *within* the district ? Yes,

If so, where ? The Residence of the Medical Officer of Health.

Are any other vaccines or sera supplied free to medical practioners ? Yes; when requested.

Encephalitis Lethargica.—Any special occurrence : None.

Pneumonia, Malaria, Dysentry, and Trench Fever.—Experience in regard to these diseases ? Late notification of Pneumonia.

Pathological and bacteriological examinations, — At which laboratory are specimens examined ? If required, York Place, Manchester.

No. of specimens examined in 1928 :—

Blood, None. Sputum, None. Throat Swabs, None.

Others (state nature) None.

Action taken in regard to (*a*) Contacts, (*b*) Return cases, (*c*) Carrier cases :—(*a*) and (*b*) kept under close observation.

Has any use been made of the tests known as the Schick and Dick tests in Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever respectively, or of the recently developed artificial methods of immunization against these diseases? No.

Influenza.—Observations on any special inquiries undertaken in connection with epidemics:—None, the influenza was generally of a mild type.

Cancer:—Any observations as to the prevalance of Cancer? No.

Disinfection:—

No. of Houses disinfected during 1928, 36. Method (state disinfectant used). Spraying and Fumigation Formalin and Sulphur. Are Houses disinfected after (*a*) Phthisis. Yes. (*b*) Measles. Occasionally.

*Apparatus used for Clothing. Bedding, &c. (steam or otherwise) Steam.

Where is apparatus situated? Leigh Joint Fever Hospital, Astley.

* If Apparatus at Hospital is available, is it used for the disinfection of Clothing Bedding, &c., of Patients *not* removed to the Hospital? Not generally, only in special circumstances.

If not, please state how disinfection of clothing, etc., in these cases is carried out. Fumigation, Spraying, Boiling in Disinfectants and Air exposure.

Any arrangement for bathing verminous, &c., persons? None.

In how many instances has disinfection been carried out? None.

The prevalence of any animal or insect pests such as rats or mosquitoes, etc., should be referred to and particulars given of the measures taken for their suppression. No particular prevalence of rats. A number of semi-professional rat catchers with dogs and ferrets, residents. The ordinary breeding places of flies, have strict attention.

TABLE B.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) in Age Groups.

"Notified" Cases *only* to be included.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.													Total Deaths.	Total Cases removed to Hospital.	Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to district.
	Total Cases at all Ages.	At Ages—Years.														
		Under 1.	1 to 2.	2 to 3.	3 to 4.	4 to 5.	5 to 10.	10 to 15.	15 to 20.	20 to 35.	35 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 & over.			
Scarlet Fever ...	22	...	...	...	1	...	10	6	1	4	...	...	...	...	9	...
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	8	...	...	1	...	1	1	2	...	3	...	...	...	...	3	...
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia ...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	1
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...
Totals	36	1	...	1	1	1	11	9	1	9	...	...	2	1	13	1

Tuberculosis.

	New Cases.				DEATHS (The number of deaths classified should agree with the total supplied by the Registrar-General)			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
1—5	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—
5—10... ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
10—15... ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—20... ...	—	1	1	—	—	2	—	—
20—25... ...	1	1	—	—	1	—	1	—
25—35... ...	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—
35—45... ...	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
45—55... ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
55—65... ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	1	5	2	3	1	4	3	1
	6		5		5		4	

In your opinion, is the notification of tuberculosis in your district efficient? Earlier notification is desirable.

Has any action been taken in cases of wilful neglect or refusal to notify? No.

Is there any evidence of excessive incidence of, or mortality from, tuberculosis in any particular occupation in the district? No.

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925

Any action taken under these Regulations relating to tuberculous employees in the milk trade. No.

7.—Maternity and Child Welfare.

(1) Is the Maternity and Child Welfare work carried out by the local authority? No.

(2) The general arrangements made for attending to the health of expectant and nursing mothers and of children under five years of age, including the work of health visitors, nurses, etc.: The County Council Officials.

(3) Consultation and treatment centres: Walkden and Farnworth

Prevention of Blindness.

Action taken (if any) under Section 66 of the Public Health Act, 1925, for the prevention of Blindness or for the treatment of persons suffering from any disease or injury to the eyes: None

Opthalmia Neonatorum.

Cases notified: One. Treated: At Home (a mild case) Vision: Unimpaired.

Notable Sanitary Improvements during 1928: Scavenging is now done by Council employees, and satisfactorily. An unusual large number of Conversions (158) as compared with former years. 82 New Houses completed and tenanted. Completion and opening of Armitage Avenue—an excellent road of exceptional value to the District in every sense. Flagging of footpaths, and road improvements.

Chief Sanitary Requirements of District : A full scheme for the Sewering of the whole Township has been submitted to the Ministry, and is awaiting their approval.

Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

(1) Factories : 9 Inspections. 1 Written Notice.

Workshops : 13 Inspections. Workplaces : 7 Inspections.

Total : 29 Inspections. 1 Written Notice.

(2) Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces :

Sanitary Accommodation (unsuitable or Defective, 1

Signed,

JNO. HOLT MARSH,
Medical Officer of Health.

July 5th, 1929.

Sanitary Inspector's Office,
Council Offices,
Little Hulton,
December 31st, 1928.

Surveyor and Inspector's Annual Report for 1928

To the Chairman and Members of the
Little Hulton Urban District Council

Gentlemen,

I have again the pleasure of presenting my Annual Report of the progress of this District in its various ways.

During the year seven houses were built by private enterprise and seventy five by the Council. Of these, eleven had two bedrooms, and the remaining seventy-one had three bedrooms. All had baths fixed, and the other usual conveniences. They are built on the average of fourteen to the acre, giving to each a nice plot of ground for gardens, most of which are being very well cultivated, a few only, but indifferently cultivated, though these I think, will in time be much improved. Judging from the number of applicants for houses, there is yet room for further building.

There are within the District of Little Hulton 2,003 houses, 75 having been built by the Council, and 7 by private enterprise under the 1923 Act. One house has been condemned as unfit for habitation owing to its dangerous condition caused by colliery workings. There are 93 with small shops attached, 17 which are used as lock-up shops, 10 with workshops or work places attached such as Boot and Clog Repairs, Dressmaking, &c., and 19 as Confectioners. There is only one Wholesale Confectioner in the village. 2 Motor Garages for general repairs, 7 Mills, 3 Foundries, 1 Laundry, and 8 Elementary Schools. With the exception of two, all the Schools are fitted with Fresh Water Closets, and the yards either paved with setts, flags, or ashphalted. All these Schools are regularly sprayed with disinfectants by the Council's workmen once a month, and have special treatment during holidays. There are 2 Collieries in the District, each with a Waggon Works and other kind of workshops, unfortunately not working very regularly.

Property owners have shewn a better appreciation of the advantages of Fresh Water Closets being provided, and are now more willing to carry out these alterations than formerly. The general condition of houses in this area may be considered as being up to the average of any other District, and may be classed satisfactory. There are three areas consisting of about 51 houses which are not so satisfactory.

Much of the work in the Sanitary Department is summarised in the following tables :—

TABLE I.

Number of Nuisances	252
,, ,, Visits paid *re* abatements	305
,, ,, Houses visited	86
,, ,, Notices served (Informal)	118
,, ,, Notices served (Statutory)	91
,, ,, Privies converted to fresh W.Cs. ...	158
,, ,, Waste Water Closets converted to fresh W.Cs.	3
,, ,, Visits made to inspect the outside of premises	1605

It is found that much good can be done by quiet talks with owners or by sending a nice letter in regard to many forms of nuisances, but when Privies, etc., have to be converted to W.C.s., then Statutory Notices are served, as there are some agents for property who are more difficult to move than the owners themselves would be.

TABLE II.

Herewith is supplied a summary of the nuisances dealt with. These do not include nuisances from Gas leakages which are not only unpleasant but are also dangerous, and in regard to which not only prompt, but drastic action is taken :—

Defective Water Closets	16
,, Waste W.C.	1
,, Drains	43
,, Yards	1
,, Windows	1
,, Spouts	35
,, Slating	5
,, Privies and Ashpits	124
,, Houses with damp walls	12
,, Houses—general delapidations	14
	252

Mills.

The Sanitary conveniences and the fire escapes have all been kept in a satisfactory condition, the only fault to be found is with the manner of using the W.Cs. It is quite common to find large accumulations of cotton waste down at the Worsley Road Works, which the most stringent regulations of the Millowners seem powerless to prevent.

Smoke observations have been made periodically without infringements of the time limit being made during the 30 minutes allocated to this work. Twelve observations have been made altogether.

There has been a great improvement since the time limit was reduced to two minutes in the half hour. Cowsheds have been kept under inspection, and the attention of several farmers has been called to the insufficient grooming of the cows previous to milking. On one occasion this was strongly resented, even to the extent of threatening your Inspector, who insisted that the cattle must be kept in a cleaner condition. Some of the farmers are scrupulously clean, and are a credit, and proves that it is not an impossible task. The cowsheds are gradually being brought to a standard of fitness that can be accepted as satisfactory. All are well supplied with good water, and well lighted, and ventilated, and the drainage in good order.

Workshops and Factories.

While the sanitary conveniences are all kept in a satisfactory condition, I have yet to complain that the Operatives will use waste of various kinds which, getting into the drains, sometimes causes serious trouble, also a quantity of waste oil is many times found on the surface of the tanks at the Sewage Works, which has a serious effect on the working of the bacteria beds and filters.

There are 15 shops in which Butcher's meat is sold, but six of them only sell it as a side line to their other business as Grocers, and one is a branch shop, and eight are meat shops entirely, and are in connection with Slaughter Houses, though two of these Butchers have lately been buying meat from the abattoirs, only killing at odd times in their own Slaughter House. The Slaughter Houses are kept in a very cleanly state, though four of them are not in very suitable situations, being closely hemmed in with other buildings. Only good young cattle are usually slaughtered in this area, milking cows, which have been fattened, are skinned, hence the meat is generally very good and only 151 lbs. of meat has been removed as unfit, and this has been voluntarily given up without the least hesitation.

Bakehouses.

These are kept limewashed according to the regulations and sometimes are done oftener than the regulations require. In the one instance of wholesale baking, a new plant of mechanical mixers has been installed, and the minimum handling is now required. This now makes two Bakers who have apparatus of this nature, one of whom sells only over the counter. There are several bakers and butchers who come to deliver their goods by vans from other Districts.

The sanitary conveniences and the fire escapes at the several factories are kept in good order, and in one or two instances the fire appliances are put to use to show that they are in working order should a fire occur.

There has been a great improvement in the rate of progress with the conversion of Privies and Ashpits to Fresh Water Closets. 158 of such alterations having taken place, and there are signs that this rate of progress will be maintained during 1929.

The number of infectious cases have again been fairly light, and have been spread over the District in a remarkably uniform manner, and the Schools each having somewhat of a share, in keeping with the number of Scholars in attendance. All premises are disinfected where an infectious case occurs, and the premises are thoroughly inspected and defects noted, the owners being duly notified and the repairs required are generally carried out.

Housing Inspection—Housing and Town Planning Act.

Of the 44 houses inspected under the above Act, no house has been found really unfit for habitation, several were found in such a state that extensive alterations were suggested, and the Medical Officer of Health and myself met the Agent to this particular property, and he has agreed that what was required should be done. In others, repairs to slates, window cords, dirtiness of tenants, and general cleansing, were the chief defects.

Yours obediently,

JAMES T. DAVIES,

Surveyor and Inspector.

BRITISH MUSEUM
66
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